

**LAWS EVERY CITIZEN OUGHT TO KNOW CITED BY MRS. I. B. OAKLEY**

"Philadelphia Clean" Better Worth Fighting For Than "Philadelphia Dirty," She Writes

**CITES "CLEAN SNOW" ACT**

**Fear of Neighborhood Dislike Makes Some Citizens Court Pneumonia and Bronchitis**

This is the sixth of a special series of articles written especially for the Evening Ledger by Margaret B. Oakley, which will appear every Tuesday and which will deal with municipal laws, which every citizen ought to know. Mrs. Oakley is corresponding secretary and a member of the board of directors of the Civic Club, chairman of the Civic League, advisory chairman of the House of Representatives, advisory chairman of the Civil Service Reform Committee of the Pennsylvania Limited, advisory chairman of the Pennsylvania League for Good Government, and a member of the National Municipal League.

By IMOGEN B. OAKLEY

When the January snows fall and citizens founder along sidewalks which the shovel has not touched, they exclaim angrily: "Why is there no law to compel people to clean the snow off their sidewalks?"

There is such a law. On September 23, 1915, the City Councils enacted an ordinance declaring it to be a nuisance and therefore prohibited "to permit snow to remain upon sidewalks, streets, alleys, or any paved footway or gutter of the city; in front of, or adjoining any church, public building, house, store, shop, stable, or apartment of any kind, or the adjoining sidewalk thereof; or vacant lots, and the occupier, or owner of such premises if unoccupied, shall be liable for such offense"; and the penalty prescribed is a fine of \$5, to be recovered before the Magistrate whose office is located nearest the place where such offense occurs.

This sounds very well, particularly the phrase which declares that owners of vacant lots and unoccupied houses, as well as actual occupiers "shall be liable for the prescribed penalty." The important question is, who is to say the "shall" and impose the penalty?

Snow on the sidewalk is a simple nuisance and comes under the control of the police department, which is "authorized by act of Legislature to abate such nuisances, but we must not forget that "authorized" means in legal phraseology merely permission and not obligation.

If, therefore, an occupier allows the snow to lie on his sidewalk more than six hours, he may be compelled to clean it off or he may not; it all depends upon the mental attitude of the Superintendent of Police. Of course, a citizen who has stumbled through the snow to his great discomfort may demand the arrest of the owner of the blockaded sidewalk, but such a course engenders bad feelings among neighbors, and people, as a rule, would rather get wet and succumb to bronchitis and pneumonia than arouse neighborhood animosities.

The only remedy for this really absurd state of municipal inefficiency is for citizens to band together and elect Councilmen who will enact ordinances that mean what they say and which some department of the Government is under bonds to enforce.

But in the meantime there is no reason why snow and the ice which follows should lie on the sidewalks. Whatever may be their mental darkness in regard to snow, citizens and rubbers, all occupiers and all owners of unoccupied houses and vacant lots know perfectly well that snow and ice are dangerous for themselves as well as for their neighbors and that it is their bounden duty to keep their pavements clean and safe.

"Preparedness" is on every tongue. Every man, we are told, may have to be a soldier in the present moment. Why not preparedness for actual civic duty as well as for possible military duty? Why not impress upon our citizens that shoveling snow and ice from pavements is a part of national preparedness? Could there be any better preparation for some possible future service in the trenches? And would not a beautiful, healthful city arouse more loyalty than one which is unsanitary and unsightly?

Would not Philadelphia clean be better worth fighting for than Philadelphia dirty?

**MEYER AND BEALE FIGHT AT CAPITAL**

Former Secretary of Navy and Society Man Rough and Tumble in Street

WASHINGTON, Jan. 25.—Former Secretary of the Navy George von L. Meyer and Truxton Beale, a society man here and a former diplomat, quarreled in the Metropolitan Club yesterday, and agreed to go to the street and fight it out.

They marched out of Washington's most exclusive social organization into H street and began to mix it. They cuffed at each other, made blind jabs until both fell to the walk from exhaustion, where they clinched and rolled over and over.

Mr. Meyer was the first to go down, but in the scuffle he got on top and was pummeling away at Mr. Beale when several members of the club rushed in and separated them. Two chauffeurs standing by when the fight commenced, conferred as to interfering.

"Let 'em go, Bill," said one: "it's a fair fight and the best man will win."

Then other club members appeared and intervened. Mr. Meyer was bundled into a taxicab and driven to the residence of Rear Admiral Leutze, where his face was washed and a few scratches attended to, his clothes brushed and pressed, after which he left for the Shoreham Hotel, where he and Mrs. Meyer have a suite of rooms. Mr. Beal went to his home on Jackson place and received treatment.

It is said that some years ago the two got into a heated argument in the Knickerbocker Club in New York which almost resulted in blows. They met by chance today and renewed this quarrel, which, it is asserted, was the result of a controversy over the question of preparedness.

During the discussion Meyer, it is said, called Beale a "hypocrite." Hot words followed, and Meyer invited Beale outside the club. Taxicab drivers and chauffeurs who witnessed the encounter say it was one of the liveliest they have witnessed in the streets of Washington in years.

**Class for Study of Autos**

The Spring Garden Institute will open a course in the study and repair of automobiles at Broad and Spring Garden streets tonight. Instruction will be in the evenings there, unless the demand justifies an additional day course. Practical instruction will be given in the principles of the automobile, its construction, maintenance and repair; the study of electrical contrivances connected with machines and the laws and rules governing auto traffic. The instructor, Earle G. Boyer, is a graduate of the machine shop practice and the mechanical drawing schools of the institute.

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**\$275**

**COHAN & HUGHES**

**\$90**

**Mahogany Case**

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**Answers to Doubters**

**WE** recently announced the sale of the new Encyclopaedia Britannica, 11th edition (guaranteed, authorized and complete), in a compact and convenient "HANDY VOLUME" form, at one-third the price of the Cambridge University issue—the only other issue of this great library—the entire Encyclopaedia Britannica shipped under our sweeping guarantee for a first payment of only \$1.00 down.

We have received hundreds of letters from people who cannot believe what we said about this bargain in our announcement. We want to answer everyone who has any doubts.

Here are some of the questions we have received and our answers to them.

**Questions**

- (a) "Is it the genuine Britannica that you are selling at a reduction of 64% and on a first payment of only \$1.00?"
- (b) "Do you really mean that you are selling an issue of the Britannica for 64% less than the Cambridge issue and that it is a well-made book? I don't see how you can do it?"
- (c) "Do I correctly understand your advertisement of the 'Handy Volume' issue of the 11th Edition Britannica to mean that this issue contains absolutely all of the contents of the Cambridge University issue, word for word the same? That seems too good to be true."
- (d) "I cannot believe that the type is legible. If you have reduced the price and the size, isn't the type in the 'Handy Volume' Britannica so fine that one cannot read it?"
- (e) "I want the Britannica and always have wanted it, but I never could afford it. Now the price you are offering it at is so low that I am afraid the print, paper, binding and get-up don't suit the scholarship and reputation of the splendid encyclopaedia I've always longed for."
- (f) "You guarantee that the contents are the same in the 'Handy Volume' issue as in the Cambridge issue that costs three times as much. Does this mean text only—have you left out the hundreds of beautifully colored maps and color plates?"
- (g) "Is there any time limit on this offer?" In other words, could I get this set in a year or two, at the same price and on the same terms as now?"
- (h) "What will you do if I order and don't like the books and send them back and they come to you in bad condition? Won't I have to pay for them?"
- (i) "Are the 'Handy Volumes' well bound and solidly made? I have often been disappointed in the quality of materials and the workmanship of books that I've bought from glowing descriptions in circulars and advertisements."
- (k) "I don't like to doubt what you say in your advertisements. I have had dealings with you and know other people who have bought from you. I have always been satisfied and I have never heard of anybody who thought you treated them unfair, but I want to be sure before I order. How can I see for myself the printing, paper and bindings of the 'Handy Volumes'?"

**Answers**

- (a) We guarantee that the "Handy Volume" issue is the genuine and most recent edition of the Encyclopaedia Britannica. The Britannica is copyrighted in the United States, and it is impossible for any one to sell or offer for sale anything called the Encyclopaedia Britannica unless it is the genuine work. The "Handy Volume" issue is manufactured by the same printers and binders as the more expensive book, for the Encyclopaedia Britannica Corporation, the American publishers of the "Handy Volume" issue and the Cambridge University issue.
  - (b) How we can do it is a long story. Much too long and full of minute detail to tell in this place. It was the result of a long series of experiments—here one saving, there another, both small, then another a little bigger, then a dozen others each so small that by itself it hardly counted, but the dozen together making an appreciable difference. We didn't see ourselves how it could be done. But we know it has been done. We can prove that. If you like the product, you need not bother over the process.
  - (c) Everything that is in the new Encyclopaedia Britannica issued by Cambridge University of England is in the "Handy Volume" issue; every page, every article, every line of text, every picture in black and white outline or half-tone; every illustration in just the same colors; every map—absolutely the same contents. If we did not send out the complete Encyclopaedia Britannica, it would be as fraudulent as if we delivered only the New Testament after advertising the Bible!
  - (d) Professor Roscoe Pound, of the Harvard Law School, a well-known authority on jurisprudence and an eminent botanist, writes us as follows, after seeing and examining the "Handy Volume" issue:  
Gentlemen:  
Cambridge, Mass., Nov. 17, 1915.  
The new form of the eleventh edition of the Encyclopaedia Britannica is nothing less than marvellous. To put that great work in such small compass and in so useful a form is of itself an achievement; to do so and yet make a page which I can certify is no more trying to a pair of bad eyes than the original edition, is a landmark in bookmaking. You are doing a public service in putting these indispensable volumes within the reach of every one.  
Yours very truly,  
ROSCOE POUND.
- This is only one of many letters of the same tenor from people who purchased the higher-priced issue and therefore know the Encyclopaedia Britannica, and who have examined the "Handy Volume" issue.
- (e) The following letter answers this better than we can. It was written by a professor of English at Harvard who paid three times as much for his set of the Britannica as you will need to pay.  
Harvard University, Nov. 17, 1915.  
As a subscriber to the original edition of the Encyclopaedia Britannica, I have been curious to see how the problem would be solved of making the work more compact and cheaper without rendering it illegible. An examination of the new issue proves that the solution has been found. The type, though smaller, is no less clear than before, the illustrations and maps are in no ways impaired, in appearance the volumes are just as attractive, and the reduction in size makes them infinitely easier to handle. I have seen no achievement in the art of bookmaking more surprising.  
Yours very truly,  
W. A. NEILSON.
  - (f) The maps and color plates are all there and all in the same colors. Not one of them is left out. Most of them are from new color blocks, so that the colors are brighter, clearer, better and more accurate than the last printings of the color plates in the big books. Color-printing and all other details of manufacture are supervised by the publishers and are done for them, not for us, under the same strict rules of "the best, no matter what the cost," that governed the manufacture of the Cambridge issue.
  - (g) We advise you to order now. Orders can be filled promptly from stock now on hand. But there will be a long waiting list when the first supply of sets is exhausted; the second supply will come in slowly, because the manufacture of these fine books cannot be rushed. The offer is limited. We can't say when it will be withdrawn. But you can be sure that you cannot "get this set in a year or two at the same price and on the same terms as now."
  - (h) We take all the risk. We expect you to be satisfied. We know the quality of the work that is in the "Handy Volumes," and we know how useful and valuable the Encyclopaedia Britannica is. We want you to test the set. If you are not satisfied, we want the books back and we will return your money. If the books come back showing no signs of use, we should not feel sure that you had given them a fair test. Under no circumstances will you be asked to pay for any damage. (Note: We pay all shipping charges on any set returned because it is not satisfactory—no matter why.)
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  - (k) We will send you a booklet with reproductions in color of the different bindings and sample pages; or a sample volume in any binding you like; or both.

**WE** stand back of everything we say in this and all other advertisements of the Encyclopaedia Britannica. We have a reputation for honest and fair dealing, for understatement instead of any "advertiser's exaggeration or bluster"—a reputation we have worked hard to earn and that we can modestly say we really deserve.

We know that no one advertisement and no number of advertisements can tell all we know and want you to know about the "Handy Volume" issue. Remember that we stand back of what we say in these advertisements and besides

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